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United States Department of Agriculture

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& Cooperative
Forestry
Management

Forest Service Denver, Colorado



# HAZARD TREE SURVEY IN

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# DEVELOPED CAMPGROUNDS

in the Rocky Mountain Region





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Assessment of Hazard Trees
Within Developed Campgrounds
in the Rocky Mountain Region

bу

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and

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Technical Report R2-33 (Revised Issue) 1985

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Twenty percent of the Rocky Mountain Region campgrounds requiring fees in 1982 were examined for hazard trees. Fifteen tree species were sampled with 7,312 stems rated for hazard. Less than 20% were rated high risk(HR); 45% were less than HR and 35% were without defect. The average number of trees per campground rated HR ranged from 3 to 58 for campgrounds with less than 10% HR trees to over 50% HR trees. Root rots were underestimated more than any other defect that predisposes a tree to failure.

Species rated HR most frequently were white spruce, aspen, corkbark fir, Engelmann spruce, cottonwood, white fir, blue spruce, and lodgepole pine in descending order. Considerable variation exists in the frequency of defects within and between species. The variation is attributed to the frequency of use of a campsite, type user, and tree species mix.

#### INTRODUCTION

The National Forests host more outdoor recreational use each year than any other recreational system in the country. In 1984 the forests of the Rocky Mountain Region hosted visitor use equivalent to 1.7 days of recreation use by every man, woman and child in the five States composing the Region plus the states adjacent to the Region. A resource used this extensively needs to be well managed to assure continuous availability and quality recreational experience.

Trees are a prime environmental feature at most recreation sites. They often develop defects as they are continually exposed to impacts created by people, aging, and the elements of nature. Some defects ultimately lead to the structural failure of portions of a tree or the entire tree. Failures that result in property damage, injury or death of a person, are of concern to us.

As Federal resource managers, we have a duty to exercise prudent care to maintain recreational areas in a reasonably safe condition. We encourage the public to visit the forests. The collection of user's fees, such as in developed campgrounds, serves to further emphasize the responsibility of the "duty of care". With increasing public pressure on the recreational resource and diminishing budgets for recreation investments, the reduction of Tort claims or administrative settlements could allow limited tax dollars to be directed toward maintenance and improvement of developed sites rather than being diverted to the settlement of damage claims for people or property.

In 1982 a regional assessment of hazard trees within developed campgrounds in the Region was initiated as a result of two incidents:

- A tree failure on July 11, 1980 in the Region resulted in the destruction of a van and trailer and caused personal injury that resulted in a Tort Claim.
- 2. The failure of 67 trees in developed recreation sites on one Ranger District on May 30, 1980. Two of the failures caused property damage.

On July 16, 1980, an investigative team examined trees within two campgrounds on the District mentioned in incident 1. The failed tree causing personal injury was examined. The summarized findings were (Fuller, 1980):

- 1. The failed tree could have been detected and removed.
- 2. The reason the tree was not identified was a lack of training of the inspector and lack of supervision.
- 3. The reason for lack of supervision was the excessive workload and the false feeling of security because the paperwork had been completed in the past and no trees had fallen.

As a result of this investigation two concerns were surfaced:

- 1. Were individuals who inspect developed campgrounds for health and safety trained to recognize and evaluate hazard trees?
- 2. What was the hazard tree situation in developed campgrounds throughout the Region?

The first concern was addressed by a Hazard Tree Instructor Trainer (HTIT) workshop in Denver on May 18-20, 1982. One individual per Forest attended the session and became the instructor for the Forest. Upon completion of training, each instructor was given a 90 minute slide/tape training package to use in the instruction of inspectors on the Forest.

The second concern resulted in a Region-wide survey of developed fee campgrounds. The findings are the basis for this report.

#### **METHODS**

During the summers of 1982 and 1983, 7,312 trees were examined and rated for hazard. The trees were in 54 campgrounds within the 12 recreational Forests of the Region. The campgrounds represented 20% of the Region 2 campgrounds requiring fees in 1982 (Appendix Table A-1).

The campgrounds and the campsites within a campground were selected by use of a random number table. A minimum of three individual campsites were examined in campgrounds that had less than 12 units. Twenty-five percent of the campsites were examined in campgrounds that had 12 or more units.

Trees rated at "risk" for failure had one or more defects that could contribute to its failure, and a target was identified (structure, vehicle, people, etc.). The tree and target were in proximity that damage or injury could occur if the tree failed.

Procedures followed for the hazard tree evaluation are described in the Region 2 HTIT slide/tape training package (Sharon and Steinke, 1982). The risk rating form (R2-2300-11a) is displayed in Appendix A, Table A-2. A three class risk rating system is used for defects. In general, Class I is low risk, Class II is moderate risk and Class III high risk. Risk ratings may be modified by type of target and tree species. Use of the rating system is explained in Technical Report R2-1 (Johnson, 1981). The weighted values assigned to SPECIES and DEFECTS to obtain a RISK RATING were based on Dr. Lee Paines tree failure data for Region 2 (personal correspondence).

Ten percent of the total trees sampled in this survey were cored to confirm structural defect. The trees were selected arbitrarily.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The hazard tree sampling system described in Region 2 Technical Report R2-1 and taught in the HTIT package works well. A few artifacts were created by the weighted values assigned to tree SPECIES and the inclusion of the EXPOSED ROOTS defect in the high risk category III. These will be discussed later.

Fifteen species of trees were sampled for a total of 7,312 stems. Less than 20% were rated high risk (HR). Approximately 27% were medium risk (MR) and 53% were low risk (LR), of which, 2,599 stems had no defects (35.5%).

Species with the highest percent HR trees were white spruce, aspen, corkbark fir, Engelmann spruce, cottonwood, white fir, blue spruce and lodgepole pine, in descending order. The other seven species of trees sampled had 20% or less HR trees (Table 1). Code abbreviations for species are explained in Appendix Table A-3.

On the basis of campgrounds, 40 of the campgrounds had 30% or less of the trees rated HR. Only one campground had more than 50% of the trees rated HR. The average number of HR trees per campground varied from 3 to 58 (Table 2).

Specific defects and their frequency within a tree specie are displayed in Tables 3 to 5. Considerable variation exists in the frequency of defects within and between species. This is expected dependent upon campground use, type of user, e.g., respector or destructor of the environment, tree species, etc. It is beyond the scope of this report to cover in detail each defect/species combination. Patterns and selected defect/species associations are discussed below. To obtain an overview of the current situation in the Region, the reader should study Tables A-5 to A-7 and B-2 to B-4 in the appendices of this report. Data is stratified by species, campground and risk rating. The code index for campgrounds is explained in Appendix Table A-4. The defects within a class are displayed in Tables 3 to 5.

Class I defects (Table 3) are indicators (e.g. slime flux) or may be precursors (e.g. small mechanical wounds) for Class II and III defects. Seldom will a Class I defect contribute directly to a tree failure.

Class II (Table 4) defects can contribute directly to tree failure. Structural damage is frequently associated with these defects. Size of defect, location, presence of microorganisms that kill or decay tissues and species of tree determine the potential for a defect to contribute to tree failure. Some defects, such as cankers, are more common to certain tree species. In this survey 48.3% of aspen had cankers (Table 4); 15.8% of the cankers had decay (Table 5) which made these defects a Class III. Cankers frequently originate at wounds or open branch stubs. Aspen had approximately 33% small mechanical wounds, 20% large mechanical wounds and 20% limb defects. The majority of the mechanical wounds were caused by recreationists. Aspen is extremely sensitive to wounds inflicted by recreationists (Hinds, 1976). Aspen represented 10% of the survey sample.

Cottonwoods are subject to crown failure. The percentages of forking (55%) and limb defects (52%, Table 4) compared to butt rot (13%, Table 5) clearly show that the potential hazard problems are in the crown. Snow load and high winds cause most of the broken and dead branches in the crown. Large living branches with multiple open branch stubs often contain decay. Cottonwood represented 6.2% of the survey sample.

Forking was the most common Class II defect. The forks were primarily "V" rather than "U" forks. In the conifers they ranged from 2% (white spruce) to 22% (limber pine, Table 4).

Frost cracks were observed in all species except green ash, blue spruce and limber pine. The incidence ranged from 1.0% in ponderosa pine to 14% in white fir.

Butt and root rots are Class III defects. Butt rot occurred most frequently in Engelmann spruce followed by aspen, cottonwood, white fir, lodgepole and corkbark fir (Table 5). Approximately 5% of the 15 species sampled were classified as having butt rot. Butt rot was detected by visual inspection and sounding with an axe. Approximately 10% of the total trees sampled were cored because visual inspection and sounding with an axe are not totally reliable to determine decay especially when inexperienced workers are involved. Coring was limited to trees

that were questionable. Not all trees classified with butt rot were cored. Decay was confirmed in 46% of the cored trees (Tables 6 & 7). Cores revealed: 31 stems with less than 24% soundwood; 117 stems with 25-49% soundwood; 211 stems with 50-99% soundwood; and 414 stems with 100% soundwood. The highest frequency of confirmed decay in cored trees occurred in the large diameter classes (Table 7). Species that are known to be susceptible to butt and root rot should be cored if there is doubt, especially when trees are mature or overmature.

Root rots are underestimated more than any other defect; they are especially difficult to detect when:

- A. the decay does not extend into the tree butt;
- B. the host species does not exude pitch from the infected area;
- C. fruiting structures of the fungus are not apparent or they are partially hidden in the duff.

Because root rotters form patterns of decay like fingers extending vertically upwards into the root-bole collar, the decay may be missed by coring between the fingers of decay. Therefore, it is important to examine stumps of previously cut or failed trees in the area. When butt or root rot is suspected, and the first core is fairly sound, an additional core should be made. Trees should be cored as close to the ground as possible. If root rot is suspected a root should be cored. Cores should always be returned to the hole after inspection to limit insect entry. Spores are ubiquitous on insects and some insects are disease vectors.

Root rot was recorded in less than 0.6% of the total trees in the HR category, while butt rot was detected in approximately 26% of the total trees in the HR category (Tables 1 and 5). The occurrence of blowdown and the pattern of decay in stumps of previously cut trees in some campgrounds support the idea that root rots were underestimated.

#### PROBLEMS OF WEIGHTED VALUES IN CALCULATING RISK RATINGS

Problems were created by weighting the values assigned to SPECIES and assigning EXPOSED ROOTS to Class III defects. Weighted values for species made it impossible for ponderosa pine, limber pine, and Douglas-fir to be rated HR even though a Class III defect existed such as butt rot, root rot, and basal cavity (Tables 1 & 5).

Conversely, assigning EXPOSED ROOTS a Class III defect results in exaggerated risk values, especially for those trees with no other Class III defect. Of the top eight species with the most HR trees (Table 1) blue, Englemann and white spruces and lodgepole pine, many were HR primarily because of EXPOSED ROOTS (Table 5). Using the current hazard tree risk rating form, trees may be assigned a higher rating than they should because they have EXPOSED ROOTS.

To correct these problems the rating values should be modified:

- A. SPECIES should have a value of 2 or 3; the 3 value should be assigned only when a tree has a Class III defect.
- B. EXPOSED ROOTS should have a value of 2 or 3; the 3 value should be assigned <u>ONLY</u> when the exposed roots are decayed.

Since the current hazard tree risk rating form does not provide these options the recommendation is to use the "comments" column on the form to record the weighted value used for calculating the risk rating.

Only tables in Appendix B have been corrected for the problems mentioned above. Appendix B contains summary tables calculated with the modified rating values. The effect of modifying the rating values is significant. The percent of trees rated HR was reduced from 20% to 14% of the total trees sampled (Table B-1). The shift is primarily due to re-evaluating risk values for EXPOSED ROOTS. The increase in percent trees rated HR that resulted from modified rating values for SPECIES was nullified by the correction for EXPOSED ROOTS.

#### CONCLUSION

Recreational sites cannot be rendered completely safe. Large trees, old growth, dense stands, dead snags, and large majestic branching crowns are part of the outdoor recreational experience. Unique features of an environmental setting attract and concentrate people. Effects of the public on degrading the environment remain long after they are gone. Educating people can help to ameliorate the rate of deterioration in some recreation areas. Natural events that affect the longevity of developed sites have to be accepted but their effect can be monitored and modified by management. We have a problem agreeing on the risks involved and how much risk is acceptable. The point is that safety is in everyone's interest and it is both wrong and counterproductive to portray otherwise.

Removal of trees and limbs that pose a safety hazard is expensive. Yearly inspection of a site for tree hazards can be costly. However, their combined cost will be less than a Tort Claim in which the Forest Service is found at fault. "Judgemental" risk is involved in evaluating a recreation site. What is important is that decisions be founded on "reasonable" and "responsible" risk.

Results of the evaluation of 20% of the fee campgrounds in the Region indicate considerable variation in the amount of deterioration of vegetation between campgrounds, sites and species. There are recreational sites that should be of concern. Priorities should be determined for their renovation or closure. A cost effective approach for estimating local budgets for hazard tree control in recreation sites (Paine, 1967) is included in Appendix B. This approach could be used for prioritizing work to be done and for building a framework for future funding.

Hazard tree evaluation is an art. It is being taught by a hazard tree instructor on each Forest. It is being learned. A lot of practice is needed to get good at it. "Judgemental risk" cannot be taken out of evaluating a questionable tree, but, experience can teach us what is a reasonable risk. The best program for hazard tree reduction is prevention, and vegetative management is a step to prevention.

#### REFERENCES

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TABLE

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\* SEE APPENDIX TABLE A-3 FOR TREE SPECIES LISTING

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# DISTRIBUTION OF DBH OF TREES WITH VARYING PERCENT SOUNDWOOD IN A TEN PERCENT SAMPLE OF TREES RISK RATED FOR HAZARD IN 54 CAMPGROUNDS IN REGION TWO

Tree Diameter at Number of Breast Height Trees Number of Stems at Four Levels of Soundwood (DBH) Cored 100% 99-50% 49-25% 24-1% 3.9 - 6.9 7 3 13 3 7.0 - 8.9 21 3 81 39 18 7 9.0 - 11.9180 22 85 66 12.0 - 40.0 \_21 499 121 \_74 283 Total 773 211 117 31 414

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## 1982

### NATIONAL FOREST CAMPGROUNDS DESIGNATED FOR PAYMENT OF A FEE



.. U.S. Department of Agriculture ...

Rocky Mountain Region

FOREST Ranger District Office Location	Campground Site Name	No. of Units	Daily Fee		FOREST Ranger District Office Location	Campground Site Name	No. of Units	
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Sulphur Hot Sulphur Springs	Arapaho Bay Green Ridge Stillwater Willow Creek	77 83 145 35	\$5.00 7.00 7.00 5.00			Happy Meadows Jefferson Creek Lodgepole Pipe Springs Reservoir	6 17 35 14 24	4.00 5.00 5.00 4.00 5.00
Middle Park Kremmling	Horseshoe South Fork Sugar Loaf	6 18 10	\$4.00 4.00 4.00			Round Mountain Springer Guich Spruce Grove	16 15 28	4.00 5.00 4.00
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	Rivers End	14	5.00			Falls Thirty Mile	11	4.00 5.00
Cepolla Gunnison	Cebolla Deer Lakes Pitkin Quartz	5 12 22 10	\$4.00 4.00 5.00 4.00		Del Horte	Beaver Creek Big Meadows Park Creek Upper Beaver	20 45 13	\$5.00 5.00 5.00 5.00
	Slumgullion Spruce Williams Creek	18 9 20	5.00 4.00 5.00		Saguache I Saguache	N. Crestone Creek	14	\$5.00

Ranger District   Campground No. of Delty   Office Location   Site Name   Units   Fee							TABI	E A-	1
Boulder	ROOSEVELT	NATIONAL FOR	EST				ATIONAL FORE	ST	
Boulder	Boulder	Kelly Dahl	46	\$5.00			Haviland Lake	45	\$5.00
S. Mineral   23						Durango		-	
Fort Collins	•	Pawnee	55	5.00		i.		_	
Fort Collins	Estas Poudra	Ansel Watrous	16	<b>85 0</b> 0					
Sixepair									
Redirection			55	5.00					
Redfeather   Bellaire Lake   13   \$5.00	•		16	4 00		0010163			
Fort Collins	6.4	Erephant	13	4.00				_	
Note			13	\$5.00		1			
Mancos   Company   Lake   24   5.00   Mancos   Company   Lake   29   5.00   Mancos   Company   Lake   29   5.00   Mancos   Company   Mancos   Company   Lake   29   5.00   Pagosa   Blanco River   18   31.00   Company   Compan	Fort Collins	•	21	£ 00			west bololes	13	4.00
Lake			31	5.00					
Pagosa Springs			24	5.00	•	Mancos	Thompson Park	51	4.00
ROUTT NATIONAL FOREST		'West Lake	29	5.00		Pagosa	Blanco River	18	\$3.00
Nahns Peak   Dunont lake   12   \$5.00   East Fork   25   4.00	ROUTT NATIO	NAL FOREST	200	1-1722,		Pagosa Springs			
Steamboat		•							
Springs						. •			
Meadows   33   5.00	1								
North Park   Aspen   7   \$4.00   Bayfield   Graham Creek   26   5.00			33 ,			•			
Norwood   Norw	<i>t</i>	Seed House	25	5.00		Rittle /	Wolf Creek	26	4.00
Walden	North Park	Aspen	7	\$4.0n		Pine	Florida	20	\$4.00
Hidden Lakes	Walden	, - ,				Bayfield			
Pines									
Tampa	1								
Tampa	F 1	7 71163	**	4.00					_
Lynx Pass   11   4.00	4 .		-						
Sillwater   29   5.00	Yampa								
Toponas Creek   6   4.00   ONCOMPANGRE NATIONAL FOREST									
Leadville	' '					UNCOMPANGE	LE NATIONAL F	OHE 5	
Leadville	SAN ISABEL	NATIONAL FOR	EST	•					-
Leadville	Leadville	Baby Doe	50	\$7.00		Norwood	Sunshine	15	5.00
Lakeview   71   5.00   Montrose	👫 Leadville			7.00	•	<b>W</b> · ·			
Molify Brown   49   7.00   Parry Peak   26   5.00   Twin Peaks   38   5.00   Aspen   Difficult   48   \$5.00   Aspen   Maroon Lake   43   5.00   Meeker   Marvine   18   5.00   Meeker   Marvine   18   5.00   Meeker   Marvine   18   5.00   Morth Fork   47   3.00   Morth							Amphitheater	33	\$5.00
Parry Peak   26   5.00	· 禁門								
Tabor   38   7.00   Aspen   Difficult   48   \$5.00	- 侧野儿	Parry Peak		5.00			NATIONAL FOR	REST	•
Salida	1.60						Difficult	a xi	\$5 Du
Salida						•			
Salida	i,	·		,				_	
Chalk take									
Cottonwood Lake 28	A (					ricekei			
Cottonwood Lake 28	3.34						Trappers Lake		
Monarch Park   37   5.00     Cutthroat   14   5.00     Mt. Princeton   13   5.00     Trappers Lake   Shepperd Rim   20   5.00   Trappers Lake   Shepperd Rim   20   5.00   Trappers Lake   Shepperd Rim   20   5.00   Trappers Lake   Shepperd Rim   20   5.00   Trappers Lake   Shepperd Rim   20   5.00   Trappers Lake   Shepperd Rim   20   5.00   Trappers Lake   Shepperd Rim   20   5.00   Trappers Lake   Shepperd Rim   20   5.00   Trappers Lake   Shepperd Rim   20   5.00   Trappers Lake   Shepperd Rim   20   5.00   Trappers Lake   Shepperd Rim   20   Shepperd Rim			28	5.00			_	10	5.00
Mt. Princeton 0   13   5.00   Trappers Lake   Shepperd Rim   20   5.00   Trappers Lake   Shepperd Rim   20   5.00   Trappers Lake   Shepperd Rim   20   5.00   Trappers Lake   13   5.00   Trappers Lake   14   5.00   Trappers Lake   15   5.00   Trappers Lake   14   5.00   Trappers Lake   15   5.00   Trappers Lake   15   5.00   Trappers Lake   13   5.00   Trappers Lake   14   5.00   Trappers								14	5.00
San Carlos   Aivarado   49   \$5.00			-					14	3,00
San Carlos	1						Shepperd Rim	20	5.00
Canon City   Bear Lake   15   5.00   Holy Cross   Camp Haie   21   \$5.00   Cuchara   28   5.00   Minturn   Gold Park   14   5.00   Gore Creek   17   5.00   Group!   Gold Park   14   5.00   Gore Creek   17   5.00   Gore Creek   17   5.00   Gore Creek   17   5.00   Group!   Gold Park   14   5.00   Gore Creek   17   5.00   Gore Creek   17   5.00   Group!	1100-0-1	A4	4.0						6.00
Blue Lake   15   5.00   Holy Cross   Camp Hale   21   \$5.00	1 ** [			-			irapiine	13	5.00
Cuchara   28   5.00   Minturn   Gold Park   14   5.00	, ,					Holy Cross	Camp Hale	21	\$5.00
Cisneros 25 5.00 Hornsilver 12 5.00 Lake isabel- Southside 8 5.00 Tigiwon Community Lake Isabel- St. Charles 15 5.00 Ophir 32 5.00 Sopris Carbondale Chapman 86 5.00 Dearhamer 13 4.00 Little Mattie 20 5.00 Contact the Ranger District Office for reservations.	r <sub>t</sub> N	Cuchara					Gold Park	14	5.00
Lake isabel— Southside 8 5.00 Tigiwon Community House 20 Group  St. Charles 15 5.00 Ophir 32 5.00 Sopris Bogan Flats 37 \$5.00 Carbondale Chapman 86 5.00 Dearhamer 13 4.00 Little Mattie 20 5.00 Contact the Ranger District Office for reservations.  Tigiwon Community House 20 Group  Togiwon Community House 20 Group  Tigiwon Community House 20 Group  Little Mattie 20 5.00  Little Maud 22 6.00  Mollie B 26 6.00	. 1		25	E 00		•			
Southside 8 5.00  Lake Isabel- St. Charles 15 5.00 Ophir 32 5.00 Sopris Bogan Flats 37 \$5.00 Carbondale Chapman 86 5.00 Dearhamer 13 4.00 Little Mattie 20 5.00 Contact the Ranger District Office for reservations.  Reduced to the state of t	7		63	3.00					
St. Charles 15 5.00 Ophir 32 5.00 Sopris Bogan Flats 37 \$5.00 Carbondale Chapman 86 5.00 Dearhamer 13 4.00 Little Mattie 20 5.00 Contact the Ranger District Office for reservations.  Redetation 14 0.00 Redetation 15 0.00 Redetation 17 0.00 Redetation 18 0.00 Redetation 18 0.00 Redetation 19 0.00 R	* *	Southside	8	5.00			Tigiwon Community		
Ophir 32 5.00 Sopris Bogan Flats 37 \$5.00 Carbondale Chapman 86 5.00 Dearhamer 13 4.00 Little Mattie 20 5.00 Little Mattie 20 5.00 Contact the Ranger District Office for reservations.	· , n		15	5.00			nouse	20	Group!
Carbondale Chapman 86 5.00  Dearhamer 13 4.00  Ifor groups by reservation only; fee varies with group size.  Contact the Ranger District Office for reservations.  Carbondale Chapman 86 5.00  Little Mattie 20 5.00  Little Maud 22 6.00  Mollie B 26 6.00	(1) to								
For groups by reservation only; fee varies with group size.  Little Mattie 20 5.00  Little Maud 22 6.00  Contact the Ranger District Office for reservations.  Hollie B 26 6.00						Carbondale	*		
For groups by reservation only; fee varies with group size.  Contact the Ranger District Office for reservations.  Little Maud 22 6.00 6.00	1-								
Padeanna 24 f. ou	For groups by reserv	ation only; fee var	ies wit	h group s	ize.		Little Maud	22	
1-35-5-02(R) Redstone 24 5.00		ISCRICE UTTICE FOR	reserva	tions.				-	
	1-35-5-82(R)						Keastone	ζ <b>α</b>	5.00

## NATIONAL FOREST CAMPGROUNDS DESIGNATED FOR PAYMENT OF A FEE



U.S. Department of Agriculture ..

Rocky Mountain Region

FOREST Ranger Disti	rict	Campground	No. of	Daily
Office Local		Site Name	Units	Fee
		NEBRASKA-		
NEBRASK	A NA	TJONAL FORE	ST	
Bessey		Cedars	20	\$5.00
Halsey		Hardwoods	11	5.00
		Claypit		Group
	<b>-</b> SO	UTH DAKOTA		
· .	30			
	LLS	NATIONAL FO	REST	/
Bearlodge		Reuter	24	\$4 no
Sundance, W	ΙY	ventei	64	\$4.00
Custer		Bismarch Lake	28	tr on
Custer		Comanche Park	34	\$5.00 5.00
1 , 11				
Harney Hill City		Ditch Creek Dutchman	13 45	\$4.00 5.00
i		Horsethief take	36	6.00
• .		Oveville	26	5.00
77	,	Whitetail	17	5.00
Nemo		Boxelder Fork	15	\$4.00
Deadwood		Dalton Lake	11	4.00
		Roubaix Lake	59	5.00
Pactola		Pactola	57	\$6.00
Rapid City		Sheridan South	126	
4		Side Sheridan North	126	6.00
		Cove	58	Group <sup>1</sup>
	\·\	YOMING-		
BICHODE	MATE	ONAL FOREST		
ואטחטומ	IAW III	ONAL FUREST		
Buffalo		Middle Fork	9	\$4.00
Buffalo	223	South Fork	15	4.00
Palntrock	224	Cabin Creek	4	\$4.00
Greybull	225	Ranger Creek	10	4.00
	226	Shell Creek	11	4.00
lens leep	227	Boulder Park	34	\$4.00
Worland	228	Lakeview	11	4.00
	221	Sitting Bull	43	4.00

21 Owen Creek

233 Silbly Lake

234 Tie Flume

Prune Creek

\$4.00

21

10

25

4.00

4.00

4.00

Tonque

Sheridan

FOREST Ranger District Office Location		No. of Units	Daily
MEDICINE B	DW NATIONAL	FOREST	
Brush Creek • Saratoga	Bow River Lincoln Park Ryan Park Silver Lake South Brush Cr	13 9 49 21 eek 21	\$4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00
Laramle Laramle	Brooklyn Lake Lake Owen Libby Creek Pi Libby Creek Sp Libby Creek	ruce 8	\$4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00
	Willow Nash Fork Pole Creek Sugarloaf Tie City Vedauwon Yallow Pine	16 29 18 16 25 11	4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00
SHOSHONE I	NATIONAL FOR	EST	
Clarks Fork Powell	Bear Tooth Lak Crazy Creek Fox Creek Hunter Peak Island Lake Lake Creek	e 21 16 27 9 20 6	\$4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00
Greybull Meeteetsee	. Brown Mountain Wood River	6 5	\$4.00
Lander Lander	fiddlers take Louis take Sinks Canyon	13 9 10	\$4.00 4.00 4.00
Wapiti Cody	Big Game Clearwater Eagle Creek Elk Fork Hanging Pock Newton Creek Pahaska Rex Hale Sleeping Glant Three Mile Wapitl	17 32 20 12 4 31 24 8 6 33 41	\$4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00
Wind River Dubols	Brooks Lake Double Cabin Falls Horse Creek	13 15 45 9	\$4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00

 $1_{For}$  groups by reservation only; fee varies with group size Contact the Ranger District Office for reservations.

				DISTRICT.							. \$1	1E N	AME			Τ/	\BL	E A	- 2	-1
			PECTION			EVAL	UATI	D B	Y									-		=
			UNIT NO	TREE NO	100H								_	_		4	_	_	4	
RIS	. VAL	UL	DBH (MINIMUM 7")								_			_	_	_	_	4	_	
2		1	Pinyon, junipers scrub oak		01						_		_		_	_	_	_	1	
THEE	A	2	ponderosa pine 5 needle pines. Dou	-	02										_		_	_	_	
S		3	Spruce/filtr aspen, cottonwood loc	dgepole pine	03										_	_	_	$\dashv$	_	
45		1	trails (low use) signs, etc		04									_	_		1			
POTFINIAL TARCS 1051	8	2	temporary structures, trails (heavy u		05										_		_		_	
£ =		3	permanent structures parked v	ehicles people	06															
•		0	no visible defect		07	-200														
			stime flux		08															
			small mechanical injury		09															
			large mechanical wounds		10															
l			frederick		11															
		2	lightning scars		12															
-			bale   cankers		13						,									
E			himb defects brooms		14						1									
1534			forked trees		15						,	•								
DEFECT(S) PRESENT	С		dead 100		16															
ָנ <u>֖</u>			dead trees		17															
ĕ			bolecankers (decayed)		18															
1			punky knots		19															
ì		3	conks		20															
3			basal carify		21															
1			buthot .		22															
			ex posed roots		23															
			Jeaner (unnatural)		24															
			roctrat		24 25												7			
RA	ISE		LOW (0-9) MED (10-20)	HIGH (21-27)	26															
- 5	T	In	exement borrings (yr) taken		29											- 1		;		
NUTE FESSION	4/	in	iches sound wood		30															
1 E					31													•		
					COMMENTS						4									
			100-000 historia de la companya del companya de la companya del companya de la companya del la companya de la c	ny agona a shin say na sisonya				!		-	1	1	1	ļ					Į	ļ

#### LISTING OF TREE SPECIES RISK RATED FOR HAZARD IN 54 CAMPGROUNDS IN REGION TWO

CODE	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
AF	ALPINE FIR	Abies lasiocarpa
AH	ASH	Fraxinus pennsylvanica
AS	ASPEN	Populus tremuloides
BS	BLUE SPRUCE	Picea pungens
CF	CORKBARK FIR	Abies lasiocarpa var. arizonica
CW	COTTONWOOD	Populus angustifolia and acuminata
DF	DOUGLAS-FIR	Pseodotsuga menziesii
ES	ENGELMANN SPRUCE	Picea engelmanni
KS	KRUMHOLTZ SPRUCE	Picea sp.
LM	LIMBER PINE	Pinus flexilis
LP	LODGEPOLE	Pinus contorta var. latifolia
OK	OAK	Quercus sp.
PP	PONDEROSA PINE	Pinus ponderosa
WF	WHITE FIR	Abies concolor
WS	WHITE SPRUCE	Picea glauca

# LISTING OF CAMPGROUNDS IN REGION TWO ON WHICH TREES WERE RISK RATED FOR HAZARD

CODE	CAMPGROUND	CODE	CAMPGROUND
1	ECHO LAKE	22	CAYTON
2	WEST CHICAGO	23	WEST DOLORES
3	PAWNEE	24	HAVREESO
4	WESTLAKE	25	MILLER CREEK
5	BUFFALO	26	FLORIDA
6	BURNING BEAR	27	EAST FORK
7	DEER CREEK	28	WEST FORK
8	KELSEY	29	KROGER
9	FLAT ROCKS	30	PURGATORY
10	TWIN PEAKS	31	NORTH FORK
11	O'HAVER LAKE	32	CAMP HALE
12	CISNEROS	33	BOGAN FLATS
13	PARK CREEK	34	BESSEY (Hardwoods)
14	UPPER BEAVER CREEK	35	TIE FLUME
15	ELK CREEK	36	TIE CITY - UPPER
16	SPECTACLE LAKE	37	TIE CITY - LOWER
17	ALAMOSA	38	HUNTER PEAK
18	HIDDEN LAKE	39	CRAZY CREEK
19	PINES	40	BROWN MOUNTAIN
20	DUMONT LAKE	41	WAPITI
21	BLACKTAIL CREEK	42	DUTCHMAN
CODE	CAMPGROUND		

CUDE	CAMPGROUND
43	HORSETHIEF
44	<b>BOXELDER</b>
45	PACTOLA
46	SPRUCE GROVE
47	CARP LAKE
48	LAKE VIEW
49	CEMENT CREEK
50	ONE MILE
51	NORTH BANK
52	CEBOLLA
53	AMPHITHEATRE
54	JACK'S CREEK

NUMBER OF HAZARD TREES BY SPECIES AND RISK RATING IN 54 CAMPGROUNDS IN REGION TWO

RISK RATING (21-27)	4	។ ហ្	) CO E	9 60	i M		C	र द	1	· C	331	0	0	109	0		ት ተ ተ የጋ
RISK RATING (10-20)	α	17	, O H C	70	C4	269	100	241		111	4	23	000	92	47		1,955
RISK RATING (0-9)	4	9	( · l	011	4 (1	51	(**) 	フフラ	←1 ←1	12	790	တ	1,303	200	44		3,902
TOTAL TREES SAMPLED	0	8 61	721	177	6.7	400 kg	215	1,434	40	13	1,539	10	1,903	401	91		7,312
S	T A	PI	D. C.	SO	L.	3	lı C∵	ഗ	X D	E	ů.	OX	ů.	]#   	ST		

PERCENT OF TREES SAMPLED BY RISK RATING IN 54 CAMPGROUNDS IN REGION TWO

	15K KA (21-2	0.00	មា មា		-			-		_	-																3							- 3								
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1SK F (10-2	4	0.00	4 -	 • b-		٠ <u>.</u>	e m	m	Ö	on.	m i	oi.	CI.		et i	m I	in (	n -	- 1	יי הי		ζ.	œ.			ı,	٠,	• • 0	3 r		(20)	CI	0	9		0	oi c	, N	0.		٥.
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	TOTAL TREES SAMPLED	4.00	() () () ()	^ \ 4 เม	120	91	8 a	08	י פין ו מט	3,56	⊃ ·- ·	104	7 1 1.	7 C	20 00 00	. I. C	0 1	ე 0 ⊲ 0	) K	1 N	100.0	82	99	) 03   (14	06	127	651 80	000 5	10 to	) + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +	124	34	. 260	ស	1/1	Ω ;	116	יי סיי	^ 대 이 대	120	139	675
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PERCENT OF SAMFLE TREES BY RISK RATING IN 54 CAMFGROUNDS IN REGION TWO

TAELE A6	RISK RATING (21-27) (21-27) 17.4 44.6 31.2 30.0 25.9 37.0 63.2
	RISK RATING (10-20)  17.9 6.9 28.7 27.5 29.3 18.5 18.5 22.4 16.8
AHIING IN 24 CAMPGROUNDS IN REGION TWO	KISK RATING (0-9)
	TOTAL TREES SAMPLED 233 157 116 81 63 134 7,312
	CAMPGROUND CODE * 145 447 479 500 501 501 503 503

\* SEE AFFENDIX TABLE A-4 FOR CAMPGROUND LISTING

4	CAMPGROUND SPECIES CODE	1 ES	ে এন এন	APF CF KS ES	4 F.F.	ů. ů.	6 LP	7 AS ES LF	8 P.F.	9 P.F.	10 AS	11 AS LP PP	12 AS DF ES LR LP PP	1.3 ES Cu	4 - 0.5
	TOTAL TREES	54	<b>യ</b> റാ പ	11 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	(1) (1)	120	91	G 4 K	38 42	18 65	1.6 340	105	ын к 40114 р	78 133 1	ů.
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OF HAZARD TREES RISK RATING 5 IN REGI <b>ON</b> 2	111	+-	ν.	0001 00011	11	78	56	1 3 3 10	18 29	123	37	ያ 4 ሺ)	0 B B B O H V	410	C
	FERCENT OF TOTAL	24	7. 13.9 19.0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	31	65	83	50 6 27	47	17 18	6 11	100	4000000	ლე დ 4 ბ	C
148	RISK RATING (21-27)	14	ભલ	8 1 4 8 8 8	٥	٥	39	0 11 7	° •	00	7 21	000	100001	‱ ମ୍ଠ	۷
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Table A-7	1 4	0	10000	4 0 4 0	% <b>८</b> ० ८५०	O W (14	0 1 7 7 7	0 m 11	0 11 11	(1 (1 0 t)	1,00	t, Gt Ct
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OF HAZARD TREES RISK RATING : IN REGION 2	RISK RATING (10-20)	17	0 1 1 4 4 0 7 1 4 4 0 7 1 4 4 0 7 1 1 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	0 1111	1 1 1 0 0 0 0	1 4 to $\Gamma$ 73	o 0 4	4 0 01	↔ Ø; ♦	0 7 10	6 to	ਜਵਾਨ
AND PERCENT SPECIES AND 4 CAMPGROUNDS	FERCENT OF TOTAL	59	0 1 10 10 10 84	100 001 004	10 28 100 65	01 U 4 01 U V O	100 75 42	0 4 0	D (1 0 4 0	o ា ភេ ភេ	₫ O	0 84 661
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# COMPARISON OF THE NUMBER OF TREES RISK RATED FOR HAZARD USING TWO METHODS: CONSTANT VERSUS VARIABLE RISK VALUES FOR SPECIES AND THE CLASS III DEFECT: EXPOSED ROOTS

	Total Trees	Trees Wi		Low (1-9	)	Medium (10-20		High (21-27)		
Risk Value	Sampled	Number	75	Number	76	Number	*	Number	%	
Constant	7,312	2,599	35	1,303	18	1,955	27	1,455	20	
Variable	7,312	2,599	35	1,285	18	2,409	33	1,001	14	



DISTRIGUTION OF TREES RISK RATED FOR HAZARD IN 54 CAMPGROUNDS IN REGION TWO USING A MODIFIED RISK RATING VALUE FOR SPECIES AND THE CLASS III DEFECT: EXPOSED ROOTS

SPECIES I	TOTAL TREES SAMPLED	RISK RATING	RISK RATING(10-20)	RISK RATING
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03	91	44	30	
	7,312	206.8	000	4

\* SEE AFPENDIX TABLE A-3 FOR SFECIES LISTING

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TABLE

PERCENT OF SAMPLE TREES BY RISK RATING IN 54 CAMPGROUNDS IN REGION TWO USING A MODIFIED RISK RATING VALUE FOR SPECIES AND THE CLASS III DEFECT: EXPOSED ROOTS

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TABLE

FERCENT OF SAMPLE TREES BY RISK RATING IN 54 CAMPGROUNDS IN REGION TWO USING A MODIFIED RISK RATING VALUE FOR SPECIES AND THE CLASS III DEFECT: EXFOSED ROOTS

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CAMPGROUND CODE 	

\* SEE APPENDIX TABLE A-4 FOR CAMPGROUND LISTING

		FOOTS
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# Tree Hazard Control on Recreation Sites . . .

estimating local budgets

LEE A.PAINE

Removal of trees or limbs that pose a safety hazard in campgrounds and picnic areas is a costly process. Nevertheless, the need for such "tree hazard control" is increasing because of mounting use of forest recreation areas. Foresters who must cope with this problem need answers to two kinds of budget questions: When the standard of control is limited by a fixed budget, how can we spend the money most effectively? Or, when management policy specifies certain standards, how do we estimate costs of meeting these standards?

If you have such a problem, this note can help you work up the answers. It suggests a procedure for assigning local control priorities--based on analysis of cost-effectiveness--to classes of tree defects.

An earlier study on forest recreation sites in California<sup>1</sup> suggested that highest priorities be given to reduction of limb defects in oaks and removal of trees with bole defects in other hardwoods and in conifers. But these statewide priorities are not necessarily best in local situations. And they may not be especially helpful in preparing your local budgets. To help you set local priorities, we suggest the following guidelines and work-

ABSTRACT: Tree hazard control efforts on recreation sites are subject to budget and administrative restrictions. To make the most effective use of available control funds, priorities should be assigned to various classes of tree defects and a budget set up. With the method provided, local priorities are based on cost effectiveness. Some guidelines and a worksheet for planning a local budget are suggested.

RETRIEVAL TERMS: accident costs; hazard control costs; forest safety; recreation budget; accident prevention; hazard control priorities; tree defect.

OXFORD: 907.2:304:677:416

sheet for estimating effectiveness of control by class of defect and by site.

Defects are considered in four classes: root, butt, bole, and limb. These classes also apply to "failures"—a term used to refer to a tree or part of a tree which represented a hazard both because it fell during a season when the site was often occupied and because it was large enough to require clean—up even though not involved in an accident.

The relative effectiveness of control (E) for each class of defect for any given area may be defined by the relationship

$$E = \frac{L}{C}$$

in which:

- L = annual property losses resulting from past failures plus
  losses prevented by removal of
  defects, and
- C = inspection and removal costs
   for control of hazard.

Three types of information are necessary before this equation can be applied to a specific area:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Paine, Lee A. Effective tree hazard control on forested recreation sites...losses and protection costs evaluated. U.S. Forest Serv. Res. Note PSW-157, 8 pp., illus. Pacific SW. Forest & Range Exp. Sta., Berkeley, Calif. 1967.

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#### ESTIMATING EFFECTIVENESS OF HAZARD CONTROL

# BY CLASS OF DEFECT--BUDGET REQUIREMENTS

	Class of defect or failure				
	Bole	Butt	Limb	Root	
r = Average property loss per failure $\frac{1}{}$	\$ 386	\$ 264	\$ <u>3/</u>	\$ <u>263</u>	
s = Annual number of in-season failures of each class on area	2	_/_	2	5	
t = Annual number of potential in-season failures prevented by control	2	2	<u>40 (</u> tre	es) <u>0</u>	
L = POTENTIAL ANNUAL LOSS FROM EACH TYPE OF DEFECT = r (s + t)	\$ <u>1,544</u>	\$ <u>792</u>	\$ 1,302	\$ <u>1,315</u>	
<pre>u = Average inspection costs per tree   for each class of defect</pre>	\$0.10	\$0.15	\$0.10	\$1.50	
<pre>v = Total number of trees to be inspected on area</pre>	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	
$w = Annual inspection costs = u \times v$	\$ <u>100</u>	\$ <u>150</u>	\$ <u>100</u>	\$ 1,500	
x = Cost per defective tree for removal of defect /	\$ <u>200</u>	\$ <u> <i>200</i></u>	\$_ <i>50</i>	\$ 300	
y = Annual removal costs = x(s + t)	\$ <u>800</u>	\$ <u>600</u>	\$ <u>2,100</u>	\$ <u>1,000</u>	
C = TOTAL ANNUAL CONTROL COST = w + y	\$ <u>900</u>	\$ <u>750</u>	\$ <u>2,20</u> 0	\$ <u>2,50</u> 0	
E = EFFECTIVENESS OF CONTROL FOR EACH CLASS OF DEFECT = L/C	1.7	/./	0.6	0.5	
E' = EFFECTIVENESS OF CONTROL FOR					
$SITE = \frac{\Sigma L}{\Sigma C} \frac{2/}{}$	0.8	-1			

 $<sup>\</sup>frac{1}{2}$  Figures shown for (r) and (x) apply to conifers and hardwoods other than oak; see sample worksheet (page 5) for values applicable specifically to oak, pine, or fir. Also see Paine, op. cit., for derivation of property loss and inspection cost values.

 $<sup>\</sup>frac{2}{2}$   $\Sigma = \text{summation of.}$ 

- (s) annual number of in-season failures of each class on the area,
- (t) annual number of in-season failures prevented by control; i.e., number of trees from which defects were removed, and
- (v) total number of trees to be inspected on the area.

To minimize yearly variations, annual failures (s + t) should represent average values for recent years, excluding unique occurrences such as large-scale blowdown. Situations which are unpredictable on a local basis can be covered in area or statewide budgets.

For convenience of agencies or units participating in the California tree failure report program, a local summary of in-season failures may be requested from this Station. The worksheet (page 5) may be copied to provide a convenient form for determination of budget figures and effectiveness of control, by defect class and by site.

Use of the worksheet is illustrated by example on page 2. In this case we have assumed a mixed conifer population (v) of 1,000 trees subject to inspection, with actual failures (s) = 2, 1, 2, and 5, and controlled failures (t) = 2, 2, 40, and 0. After entering these figures, the appropriate property loss (r) and removal cost (x) factors are selected from the worksheet on page 5. The remaining values are then easily determined as indicated.

The highest value of E(1.7) indicates that reduction of hazardous bole defect will be most effective, with butt, limb, and root defect control next in order.

In the illustration, the losses from bole and butt defect exceed the costs of control  $(E\geq 1)$ . And, because of the high number of trees with potential limb failures, limb defect control has become more effective in this situation than root defect control.

A budget of \$6,350( $\Sigma$ C) would presumably cover complete control. If your control budget were limited to

\$1,600, however, the values of E indicate that the funds should be used primarily to control bole and butt defect.

If your inspection cycle is 2 years or more, the in-season failures (s) should include the number of in-season failures occurring within the entire cycle. You can then read 'annual" as 'periodic' values.

Priority for control of any given site can be set according to the relative effectiveness of site control (E'). To permit comparison of sites, effective ness of control must be based on actual costs of control without regard to the sources of funds. When it comes to budgeting funds, local timber sales and other control or improvement programs may provide part of the working capital. For sites with no history of failures or previous removals, priority should depend on occupancy during the use season.

Area priorities may need to be established for the purpose of allotting funds within a region. For each defect class, separately, the area value

$$E^{ii} = \frac{\Sigma L(all \ sites)}{\Sigma C(all \ sites)}.$$

After you have defined, within budget restrictions, which classes of defect can be effectively controlled, sites or areas can be worked in order of decreasing values of E' or E".

Inspection and removal costs developed from local experience may be substituted for those given in the worksheet. The same thing holds for average losses if local values differ significantly from statewide averages.

Rating priorities by this method assumes that efficiency of detection is reasonably comparable for each class of defect. We have no measure of detection efficiency available as yet, but relative difficulty of detection is reflected in the inspection times (and inspection costs) assigned to each class of defect.

The rating procedure depends on local records of tree failures and controlled hazards. Some administrative units now keep such records as a matter of course; others would have to initiate them for the first time. But having a sound basis for setting control budgets and directing control emphasis should far outweigh the nuisance of keeping records, especially for areas with heavy recreational use.

Budgets are often too small to allow detailed examination of every tree,

even if present methods for detection and evaluation of hazard were not so time-consuming. With limited budgets and in the absence of specified goals, priority rating places greater emphasis on locally important classes of defect and results in more effective use of available money. Furthermore, since realistic administrative policy will never be set at complete elimination of hazard, a required level of control will be obtained more easily by determining which targets provide the greatest opportunity for control.

### WORKSHEET FOR ESTIMATING EFFECTIVENESS OF HAZARD CONTROL

# BY CLASS OF DEFECT--BUDGET REQUIREMENTS

VISTRICT	Site name					
	Cla	ss of def	ect or failure			
	Bole	Butt	Limb	Root		
r = Average property loss per failure $\frac{1}{}$	\$	\$	\$	.\$		
s = Annual number of in-season failures of each class on area	-					
t = Annual number of potential in-season failures prevented by control	2/		( t	(trees) 3/		
L = POTENTIAL ANNUAL LOSS FROM EACH TYPE OF DEFECT = r (s + t)	\$	\$	\$	\$		
u = Average inspection costs per tree for each class of defect	\$0.10	\$0.15	\$0.10	\$1.50		
<pre>v = Total number of trees to be · inspected on area</pre>						
$w$ = Annual inspection costs = $u \times v$	\$	\$	\$	\$		
<pre>x = Cost per defective tree for removal of defect!/</pre>	\$	\$	\$	\$		
y = Annual removal costs = x(s + t)	\$	\$	\$	\$		
C = TOTAL ANNUAL CONTROL COST = w + y	\$	\$	\$	\$		
E = EFFECTIVENESS OF CONTROL FOR EACH CLASS OF DEFECT = L/C						
E' = EFFECTIVENESS OF CONTROL FOR						
$SITE = \frac{\Sigma L^{4}}{\Sigma C}$	-	hands Service				
1/						

 $\frac{1}{x}$  Select values for (r) and (x) from following table:

	Bole	Butt	Limb	Root
		(dol:	lars)	
(r) Conifers and "other hardwoods"	386	264	31	263
Pine	461	44	15	284
Fir	584	267	20	494
Oak	3	0	214	45
(x) Conifers and "other hardwoods"	200	200	50	200
Oak	175	175	75	175

 $<sup>\</sup>frac{2}{2}$  Include removed snags as prevented bole failures.

 $<sup>\</sup>frac{3}{2}$  Include removed "leaners" or unstable trees as prevented root failures.

Summarize only for classes of defect which will be controlled.





